RESULTS OF ELECTIONS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE, THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND THE P. W. D. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

President: The following are the results of the elections held last evening:—

Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar secured 13 votes, and Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail 12; Mr. N. Krishna Aiyar is declared duly elected.

The Standing Finance Committee.

Mr. Kallur Narayana Pillai having secured the largest number of votes is declared duly elected.

The P. W. D. Advisory Committee.

Messrs. A. Easwara Pillai, Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi and M. Govindan secured 22, 17 and 10 votes respectively.

Messrs. Easwara Pillai and Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi are declared duly elected.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

The Travancore Krishnanvaka Marumakkathayee Bill.

Mr. James Fletcher: Sir, I beg to move that the verbal amendments to the Bill be taken into consideration.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I second it.

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (Co-opted): I oppose the motion.

President: I just want to know whether the honourable member opposes the substitution of the words 'by' for the word 'as', whether he really prefers the present ungrammatical language. Because, at the present stage, except such verbal amendments, nothing else is possible with regard to the Bill.

Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (Co-opted): Sir, the Bill was dealt with by the Sri Mulam Assembly on the 4th July. Only a very short space of time has elapsed since then, and the proceedings of the Assembly have not yet been made available to us. Therefore, I move, that the further consideration of the Bill be postponed till the proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly are placed before us.

President: I overrule that objection on the ground that the amendments now proposed are mere verbal amendments intended to correct small mistakes committed by that well known agency or personage called the printer's devil. In those circumstances, that the honourable member should require the proceedings of the Assembly to be placed before him so that he may consider these verbal amendments, is a request so unreasonable that I overrule it.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The amendments were put to vote and carried.

Mr. James Fletcher : I move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

The Bill was passed.

The Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Travancore Hindu Gains of Learning Bill.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: I second it.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTERESTS.

Compulsory Primary Education.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution :

"This Council recommends to Government that early steps be taken to introduce compulsory primary education in the State."

Sir, it is the practice here and elsewhere when such resolutions are moved, for the member concerned to seek the aid of figures, statistics. It cannot be said that that is a useless practice. But, educated members as we are, and knowing the condition of education in Travancore as we do, I do not think statstics are needed for bringing in a resolution like the present one. Comparatively, the percentage of literacy in Travancore is not low ; it is about 30 per cent. while, in British India it is only about 10 per cent. This high percentage has been achieved on account of the wise and generous policy of the Travancore Government in giving free primary education. Sir, when that step was taken by Government, our educationists gave us the definite assurance that we will be able to achieve complete literacy in a few years. We are disappointed. We have not been able to reach that Utopian ideal.

Hence it is that I have found it necessary that such a resolution as this should be moved and that, with the hearty co-operation of those interested in this problem and interested in welfare of the country, the matter might be taken up.

Sir, when I move such a resolution as this, I do realise the financial difficulty underlying such a problem, when it is to be worked. We have already found that we have only a revenue of about Rs 263 lakhs for the next year. The able Financial Secretary in his instructive and interesting and, from a literary point of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly